Food Safety and Inspection Service Washington, D.C. 20250

Mr. Brian Macdonald
Director, Meat Inspection Division
Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS)
Department of Primary Industries and Energy
Edmund Barton Building
Canberra ACT 2601
Australia

JUL 13 2001

Dear Mr. Macdonald:

Enclosed is a copy of the Final report of the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) October 16 through November 3, 2000, audit of Australia's meat inspection system. We received AQIS' June 5, 2001, letter providing comments on the Draft Final report of the same audit. This letter has been incorporated into the Final report as Attachment "G."

We appreciate your thorough review of the FSIS audit findings and the corrective actions taken to ensure that meat products exported to the United States meet U.S. import requirements. If you have any questions regarding the audit or need additional information, please contact Ms. Sally Stratmoen, Chief, Equivalence Section, International Policy Staff. Her telephone number is 202-720-6400 and her facsimile number is 202-720-7990.

Sincerely,

Karen Stuck, Acting Director International Policy Staff

Office of Policy, Program Development

151 Rick Harries

and Evaluation

Enclosure